

## Beginning Algebra ~ Lesson 20

Work the following examples as you listen to the recorded lecture.

### Slope-intercept Form

Slope-intercept Form is a special way of writing a linear equation that makes it easy to graph. We recognize slope-intercept forms of linear equations by the position of the terms. The format is  $y = mx + b$  where  $m$  is the slope and  $b$  is the y-intercept of the line. The y value is all we need for the y-intercept, since we know that the x component of the y-intercept is always 0.

<b>Remember....</b>
Slope-intercept form of a linear equation: $y = mx + b$
1. Solved for y
2. The x variable term is immediately following the equal sign
3. The b (y-intercept) term is positioned last

Look closely at these examples of linear equations. Some are slope-intercept form, and some are not. Be sure you understand the explanation for each.

<u>Linear Equation Examples</u>	<u>Is it in Slope-intercept Form?</u>	<u>Explanation</u>
$y = 2x + 3$	Yes $m = 2$ $b = (0, 3)$	The equation is solved for y, the x-term follows the equal sign and the y-intercept is positioned last
$3y = 4$	No	The equation is not solved for y since y has a coefficient of 3.
$y = \frac{2}{3}x - 1$	Yes $m = \frac{2}{3}$ $b = (0, -1)$	Remember, the slope can be a fraction and the y-intercept can be negative.
$2x = 4 - 3y$	No	The equation is not solved for y.